

Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council

Shallow Lake & Wetland Protection & Restoration Program - Phase VIII

Laws of Minnesota 2019 Accomplishment Plan

General Information

Date: 08/22/2022

Project Title: Shallow Lake & Wetland Protection & Restoration Program - Phase VIII

Funds Recommended: \$6,150,000

Legislative Citation: ML 2019, 1st Sp. Session, Ch. 2, Art. 1, Sec. 2, subd, 4(b)

Appropriation Language: \$6,150,000 the first year is to the commissioner of natural resources for an agreement with Ducks Unlimited to acquire lands in fee and to restore and enhance prairie lands, wetlands, and land buffering shallow lakes for wildlife management under Minnesota Statutes, section 86A.05, subdivision 8. A list of proposed acquisitions must be provided as part of the required accomplishment plan.

Manager Information

Manager's Name: Jon Schneider

Title: Manager Minnesota Conservation Program

Organization: Ducks Unlimited

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Location Information

County Location(s): Clay, Kandiyohi, Lincoln, Murray, Jackson, Lyon, Redwood, Cottonwood, Swift, Sibley, Big Stone and Meeker.

Eco regions in which work will take place:

Prairie

Activity types:

Protect in Fee

Priority resources addressed by activity:

- Wetlands
- Prairie

Narrative

Abstract

This Phase 8 request funds Ducks Unlimited's prairie land acquisition and restoration program. DU will acquire 560 acres of land containing drained wetlands in the Prairie Pothole Region of SW Minnesota for restoration and transfer to the Minnesota DNR for inclusion in the state WMA system. This land acquisition and restoration program focuses on restoring cropland with wetlands along shallow lakes and adjoining WMAs containing large wetlands to help restore prairie wetland habitat complexes for breeding ducks and other wildlife. DNR will help seed uplands, and DU engineers will survey, design, and hire private sector contractors to restore wetlands.

Design and Scope of Work

This is Phase 8 of Ducks Unlimited's ongoing program to both Acquire and Restore wetlands and prairie on land for sale adjacent to existing Minnesota DNRs State Wildlife Management Areas (WMA). DU works with willing seller private landowners adjacent to WMAs that have drained wetlands and converted prairie uplands, and land on shallow lakes in need of protection. DU purchases and holds land title through it's Wetlands America Trust (WAT), DU's supporting land-holding fiduciary organization, of which DU is the sole corporate member.

Our goal is to help create functioning prairie-wetland habitat complexes and complement other conservation efforts to protect intact native prairie. Our work addresses the habitat goals in Minnesota's Long-range Duck Recovery Plan, Minnesota's Prairie Conservation Plan, and the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. This work is time-sensitive because farmland adjacent to state WMAs is rarely offered for sale for conservation, and tracts are only available for a short time. DU works quickly, and has already spent most ML2017 and ML2018 OHF funds appropriated.

DU works in close partnership with the Minnesota DNR Section of Wildlife, and coordinates with Pheasants Forever, other NGO partners, and local sportsmen clubs such as Swan Lake Area Wildlife Association and Cottonwood County Game and Fish League. Although approval is not requested from county boards for DU land acquisitions, DU communicates frequently with county and township officials to ensure local public awareness of our conservation work, and routinely attends county board meetings to discuss questions. The acquisitions and restorations proposed represents the amount of work DU can accomplish in three to five years, is scalable, and benefits game and non-game wildlife species alike - from mallards to monarch butterflies.

Because 90% of our prairie wetlands have been drained and 99% of our prairie uplands converted in Minnesota, acquisition and restoration of prairie and small wetlands is critical – especially for breeding waterfowl in the Prairie Pothole Region of SW Minnesota where DU focuses our efforts. Furthermore, most remaining wetlands here are in poor ecological condition due to massive landscape prairie conversion to cropland and wetland drainage that degrades both wetland condition and habitat function for prairie wildlife.

Although many of our remaining prairie wetlands and shallow lakes are contained within state WMAs or federal Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA), these small public land patches rarely provide optimal wildlife habitat due to their fragmented shape and small size. Similarly, most prairie shallow lakes are surrounded by a thin ribbon of uplands that fail to adequately buffer them from surrounding agricultural land runoff. Therefore, acquisition and restoration of drained wetlands and cultivated cropland in close proximity to our public lands will improve and buffer our public shallow lakes and remaining wetlands, and help create functioning prairie-wetland complexes of habitat for breeding ducks and other prairie wildlife.

DU professional engineers and biologists work closely with DNR field staff to plan and implement both robust prairie and wetland restorations, including diverse native forb/grass seed plantings and complex wetland restorations that often involve extensive tile drainage systems.

How does the plan address habitats that have significant value for wildlife species of greatest conservation need, and/or threatened or endangered species, and list targeted species?

This proposal protects and restores prairie lands, which are identified as critical habitats for many "Species of Greatest Conservation Need" listed in Minnesota's "Tomorrow's Habitat for the Wild & Rare: An Action Plan for Minnesota Wildlife." Specific species listed in the Action Plan as requiring prairie (page 255) include seven species of butterflies and three bird species that are native prairie specialists: chestnut-collared longspur, Sprague's pipit, and Baird's sparrow. The Prairie Parkland has 139 species listed on the SGCN with 13 of these species being unique to the section.

In addition to these specific wildlife species listed as SGCN examples in the Action Plan, restored prairie in the Prairie Parkland will provide habitat of significant value for other species listed in Appendix B of the Action Plan too. Restored and protected prairie will provide habitat of significant value for other SGCN including bird species: upland sandpiper, bobolink, burrowing owl, le conte's sparrow, grasshopper sparrow, eastern meadowlark, swamp sparrow, sharp-tailed grouse, short-eared owl, northern harrier, dickcissel, Henslow's sparrow, and Nelson's sharp-tailed sparrow. Upland nesting waterfowl will also benefit including waterfowl listed as SGCN; northern pintail and lesser scaup, which have both seen declines in continental populations. Wetland associated birds such as trumpeter swan, black tern, American bittern, Wilson's phalarope, and marbled godwit will benefit from wetlands either restored or buffered in the prairie landscape. Mammals such as northern grasshopper mouse and Richardson's ground squirrels, reptiles such as lined snake and Blanding's turtle, and amphibians such as northern cricket frog and common mudpuppy are listed as SGCN for the Prairie Parkland.

Describe how the plan uses science-based targeting that leverages or expands corridors and complexes, reduces fragmentation or protects areas identified in the MN County Biological Survey:

Ducks Unlimited uses science to strategically focus on lands adjacent to existing state WMAs with restorable wetlands that build prairie-wetland complexes for breeding ducks or buffer managed shallow lakes. U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's "Thunderstorm Map" and "Restorable Wetlands Inventory" help determine importance to breeding waterfowl. We prioritize lands with restorable wetlands and prairie near WMAs with relatively high biological diversity and significance based on the Minnesota DNR County Biological Survey (MCBS) to improve the

ecological functionality of existing public WMAs for ducks. Examples include:

Westport WMA Tract 2 in Pope County is a 160-acre prairie-wetland complex adjacent to a MCBS native prairie site of moderate biodiversity significance. This complex supports over 50 breeding duck pairs per square mile. It is 0.5 miles from two DNR priority shallow lakes and in a Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan habitat complex.

Indian Lake WMA Tract 6a is 30 acres adjacent to Indian Lake in Sibley County, a MNDNR Wildlife priority shallow lake with a high level of biological significance and WMA of moderate biodiversity significance.

Thoen Lake WMA tract 2b in Meeker County is 155 acres near Thoen Lake, both a wild rice and DNR priority shallow lake in a landscape estimated to support 20 breeding duck pairs per square mile.

Expandere WMA Tract 12 in Cottonwood County is 121 acres adjacent to 1,000 contiguous acres of wetland-grassland habitat, a significant MCBS Sites of Outstanding and High Biodiversity due to excellent quality native wet-prairie within its borders. It supports over 21 breeding duck pairs per square mile, falls within a Pheasant complex, and is 1 mile from a Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan Core Area.

Dovray WMA Tracts 19&19A in Murray County comprise 165 acres adjoining Dovray WMA and less than a quarter mile from Slaughter Slough WPA in Murray County. The complex supports over 41 breeding duck pairs per square mile and is adjacent to four priority shallow lakes as identified by the Minnesota DNR. It is within a Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan Strategic Habitat Complex, and nearly surrounds a partially-drained shallow lake within Dovray WMA, thus making restoration feasible.

Which two sections of the Minnesota Statewide Conservation and Preservation Plan are most applicable to this project?

- H4 Restore and protect shallow lakes
- H5 Restore land, wetlands and wetland-associated watersheds

Which two other plans are addressed in this program?

- Long Range Duck Recovery Plan
- Minnesota Prairie Conservation Plan

Which LSOHC section priorities are addressed in this program?

Prairie

 Protect, enhance, or restore existing wetland/upland complexes, or convert agricultural lands to new wetland/upland habitat complexes

Does this program include leveraged funding?

-

Per MS 97A.056, Subd. 24, Please explain whether the request is supplanting or is a substitution for any previous funding that was not from a legacy fund and was used for the same purpose.

This request is not supplanting or substituting previous DU funding. This request is for new land acquisition funding to supplement traditional DU conservation activities and allow DU to expand our conservation program to buy/restore land, and will not supplant or substitute traditional sources of funding for DU conservation work.

Non-OHF Appropriations

Year	Source	Amount
2009	DU private	-
2010	DU private	-
2013	DU private	-
2015	DU private and federal NAWCA	-
2016	DU private and federal NAWCA	-
2017	DU private and federal NAWCA	-
2018	DU private and federal NAWCA	-

How will you sustain and/or maintain this work after the Outdoor Heritage Funds are expended?

All lands acquired will be transferred to the Minnesota DNR for inclusion in the state's Wildlife Management Area system. Thus, Minnesota DNR Wildlife land managers will sustain and maintain the prairie and wetlands acquired and restored by Ducks Unlimited in perpetuity, and manage them to provide optimal wildlife habitat and for public use.

Actions to Maintain Project Outcomes

Year	Source of Funds	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
2022	DNR G&F Fund, OHF	Mow restored prairie for weed control	Periodically burn native prairie every 5 years as needed	Assess and manage water levels in larger restored wetlands as vegetation and ecological conditions warrant action

Activity Details

Requirements

If funded, this program will meet all applicable criteria set forth in MS 97A.056? Yes

Will county board or other local government approval <u>be formally sought**</u> prior to acquisition, per 97A.056 subd 13(j)?

No

Describe any measures to inform local governments of land acquisition under their jurisdiction:

Discussions with local county and other government officials will be held in conjunction with acquiring lands, and timing of notification depends upon the situation. DU strives to notify and discuss land acquisition plans prior to land acquisition closings. Because land acquisition deals are very private and

sensitive matters, disclosing details in advance of purchase agreements can jeopardize land deals with private landowners. Because requesting formal local approval involves elected officials voting on private land deals, which invites local politics and makes private landowner intentions public, DU does not seek local government approval of our land acquisitions but instead meets with county and township boards in person to inform and discuss pending plans to ensure local government awareness of the public benefits of our land acquisition and restoration work, and changes in future tax payments. DU pays taxes in full at the county assessed rate during our hold time, and because state PILT amounts have been higher than previous assessed county tax rates for land acquired by DU in the Prairie Section of SW Minnesota, county boards have been very pleased with DU land acquisitions for the Minnesota DNR.

Is the land you plan to acquire (fee title) free of any other permanent protection? ${\it No}$

Describe the permanent protection and justification for additional protection:

Some tracts may contain a USFWS wetland easement protecting intact wetland basins, prohibiting drainage or filling but allowing farming when dry, so the value of these areas can be accommodated in the appraisal. If tracts protected by other easements such as RIM are pursued, DU will ask the landowner to donate the residual value of those acres or use other non-OHF funding to acquire those acres.

Land Use

Will there be planting of any crop on OHF land purchased or restored in this program? Yes

Explain what will be planted:

DU purchases land in Minnesota to protect and restore prairie, wetlands, and shallow lake shoreland for ducks and other prairie and wetland-dependent wildlife. Lands acquired will be transferred to the Minnesota DNR for inclusion in state Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) for long-term management and public use. Initial Development and Restoration Plans are developed in partnership with Minnesota DNR and area wildlife manager approval according to WMA management plan goals. The primary purposes of WMAs are to develop and manage habitat for the production of wildlife and for compatible outdoor recreation. To fulfill those goals, the DNR may use limited farming specifically to enhance or benefit the management of state lands for wildlife.

Lands proposed to be acquired for prairie restoration as WMAs may utilize limited farming to prepare previously farmed sites for native plant seeding. This is the standard prairie restoration practice across the Midwest. On a small percentage of WMAs (less than 2.5%), DNR uses farming to provide a winter food source for a variety of wildlife species in agriculture-dominated landscapes largely devoid of winter food sources. DU will work closely with DNR through our cooperative acquisition and restoration planning process to avoid purchasing tracts where DNR requires placement of food plots and instead defers those to DNR to acquire directly or to other NGOs, as restoration of prairie and wetlands for waterfowl is our strategic focus and mission.

Most lands to be acquired and restored through this program will be agricultural farmland with previously-cropped fields, which DU will restore to prairie and wetland habitat. Very limited short-duration row-

cropping of soybeans or use of cover crops such as oats, or other farming activity is often required immediately after acquisition prior to restoration before native prairie grass and forb seeding to rid the soil of residual herbicides that limit native plant growth and excess nutrients that promote weeds. Increasingly, farmers are using herbicides with an 18-month carryover residual effect, that requires an additional year of farming with other compatible herbicides before native plants can be seeded. DU strives to minimize this circumstance by working with private landowners to guide their final year of cropping prior selling, but arranging such is not always possible and use of cover crops or an additional year of "safe" row cropping in soybeans is sometimes required. Often, DU also needs time after acquisition to survey, engineer, design, and install wetland restorations before prairie uplands can be restored. DU will strive to use non-GMO treated seed whenever and wherever possible if planting of crops is required.

Are any of the crop types planted GMO treated?

True

Is this land currently open for hunting and fishing?

No

Will the land be open for hunting and fishing after completion?

Yes

Describe any variation from the State of Minnesota regulations:

No variations anticipated. All lands to be acquired are in rural areas and will be included in state Wildlife Management Areas, and open to public use as per Minnesota DNR rules.

Who will eventually own the fee title land?

State of MN

Land acquired in fee will be designated as a:

WMA

What is the anticipated number of closed acquisitions (range is fine) you plan to accomplish with this appropriation?

We anticipate closing between 4-6 acquisitions through this appropriation.

Are there currently trails or roads on any of the proposed acquisitions?

No

Will new trails or roads be developed or improved as a result of the OHF acquisition?

No

Will the acquired parcels be restored or enhanced within this appropriation?

Yes

Yes, the primary purpose of this appropriation is to restore previously converted pothole wetlands and native prairie grasslands in the Prairie Pothole Region of western and southern Minnesota. Many of the parcels acquired by DU are intensively drained and cultivated, and restoration of drained wetlands involves modification of complex tile and ditch drainage systems, including sediment removal from basins drained a century or more ago into which topsoil has eroded. Restoration of these lands is expensive, and DU budgets conservatively to ensure adequate OHF funding is allocated for restoration of all lands acquired.

We also strive to pursue NAWCA grant funds to help pay for restoration of sites after appropriations are made, but we don't budget assuming those competitive federal funds will become available so that we can assure the LSOHC, legislature, and citizens that lands acquired by DU with OHF grants will indeed be restored for both wildlife and the public.

Timeline

Activity Name	Estimated Completion Date
Appraise and acquire lands in fee-title.	June 2022
Restore lands acquired and transfer to Minnesota DNR.	June 2027

Date of Final Report Submission: 09/30/2027

Availability of Appropriation: Subd. 7. Availability of Appropriation

Money appropriated in this section may not be spent on activities unless they are directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation and are specified in the accomplishment plan approved by the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Council. Money appropriated in this section must not be spent on indirect costs or other institutional overhead charges that are not directly related to and necessary for a specific appropriation. Unless otherwise provided, the amounts in this section are available until June 30, 2022. For acquisition of real property, the amounts in this section are available until June 30, 2023, if a binding agreement with a landowner or purchase agreement is entered into by June 30, 2022, and closed no later than June 30, 2023. Funds for restoration or enhancement are available until June 30, 2024, or five years after acquisition, whichever is later, in order to complete initial restoration or enhancement work. If a project receives at least 15 percent of its funding from federal funds, the time of the appropriation may be extended to equal the availability of federal funding to a maximum of six years if that federal funding was confirmed and included in the original draft accomplishment plan. Funds appropriated for fee title acquisition of land may be used to restore, enhance, and provide for public use of the land acquired with the appropriation. Public-use facilities must have a minimal impact on habitat in acquired lands.

Budget

 $Budget\ reallocations\ up\ to\ 10\%\ do\ not\ require\ an\ amendment\ to\ the\ Accomplishment\ Plan.$

Totals

Item	Funding Request	Antic. Leverage	Leverage Source	Total
Personnel	\$370,000	\$30,000	Future NAWCA grants	\$400,000
Contracts	\$1,350,000	\$70,000	Future NAWCA grants	\$1,420,000
Fee Acquisition w/	\$3,550,000	-	-	\$3,550,000
PILT				
Fee Acquisition w/o	-	-	-	-
PILT				
Easement Acquisition	-	-	-	-
Easement	-	-	-	-
Stewardship				
Travel	\$60,000	\$10,000	Future NAWCA grants and DU private \$	\$70,000
Professional Services	\$150,000	-	-	\$150,000
Direct Support	\$30,000	\$3,000	Future NAWCA grants	\$33,000
Services			and DU private \$	
DNR Land Acquisition	\$100,000	-	-	\$100,000
Costs				
Capital Equipment	-	-	-	-
Other	\$50,000	-	-	\$50,000
Equipment/Tools				
Supplies/Materials	\$80,000	-	-	\$80,000
DNR IDP	\$410,000	-	-	\$410,000
Grand Total	\$6,150,000	\$113,000	-	\$6,263,000

Personnel

Position	Annual FTE	Years	Funding	Antic.	Leverage	Total
		Working	Request	Leverage	Source	
Engineers to	1.0	0.0	\$100,000	\$30,000	Future NAWCA	\$130,000
survey, design,					grants	
and manage						
construction to						
restore prairie						
wetlands on						
lands acquired						
Regional	0.75	0.0	\$70,000	-	-	\$70,000
Realty						
Specialist to						
help manage						
land						
acquisition						
details during						
closing and						
transfer to						
Minnesota						
DNR			+10000			+400000
Biologists to	1.0	0.0	\$100,000	-	-	\$100,000
assist initial						
site inspection						
and survey,						
and guide						
restoration of						
lands acquired						

Project #: None

						110,000 1111011
Manager of	1.0	0.0	\$100,000	-	-	\$100,000
Conservation						
Programs to						
lead appraisals						
and						
negotiations						
with						
landowners to						
acquire land,						
and administer						
this OHF grant						
and overall						
land protection						
program						

Amount of Request: \$6,150,000 **Amount of Leverage:** \$113,000

Leverage as a percent of the Request: 1.84%

DSS + Personnel: \$400,000

As a % of the total request: 6.5%

Easement Stewardship: -

As a % of the Easement Acquisition: -

How will this program accommodate the reduced appropriation recommendation from the original proposed requested amount?

The appropriation recommendation for this program was reduced to 45% of the funding requested. Therefore, the budget for this program was reduced proportionately according to the proportion of the funding request recommended, with minor reallocation among budget categories and adjustments to accommodate unanticipated higher DNR LAM costs requested by DNR.

Describe and explain leverage source and confirmation of funds:

DU will work hard to leverage OHF grant funds with additional sources of private support from individuals, foundations, and corporations and via federal NAWCA grants for specific projects, especially by using OHF grant land acquisition expense to leverage federal grants to restore wetlands and prairie uplands on lands acquired.

Contracts

What is included in the contracts line?

Contracts include earth moving to plug ditches and scrape sediment, build berms, remove drainage tile, and install water control structures to restore prairie wetlands. Contracts may also include application of native prairie seed too, in cases where DNR Wildlife managers are unable to perform seeding work directly.

Travel

No

Does the amount in the travel line include equipment/vehicle rental?

Explain the amount in the travel line outside of traditional travel costs of mileage, food, and lodgingNone - DU travel costs consist of in-state mileage, lodging, and meals only (primarily mileage and lodging for manager, biologists, and engineering field staff). Usually, we don't request reimbursement for meals.

I understand and agree that lodging, meals, and mileage must comply with the current MMB Commissioner Plan:

No

Direct Support Services

How did you determine which portions of the Direct Support Services of your shared support services is direct to this program?

Minnesota DNR grants staff previously reviewed and approved DU accounting methodology for Direct Support Services, which are calculated and included in DU staff costs. DU Direct Support Services constitute approximately 10% of DU overall staff costs on average among DU conservation staff billing categories. DU breaks out and invoices for Direct Support Service expenses approved by DNR for reimbursement separately from Personnel expenses. In accordance with 2 CFR 200, DU uses the direct allocation method of allocating costs to programs and final cost objectives. This process of allocating costs is accomplished through the use of hourly rates. The direct cost of activities, including direct support expenses, is included in these hourly rates. The rates are comprised of costs for salaries, benefits, office space, general insurance, support staff, office supplies, and other various direct expenses incurred at the regional offices and conservation department at the home office. All costs are assigned to conservation projects (net of applicable personnel and other costs that are non-conservation related.) Hourly charges represent the amount that DU charges conservation projects per hour for each staff member working on the project. These costs represent expenses that directly support the labor cost necessary for the development of a specific water/wetlands conservation project.

Federal Funds

Do you anticipate federal funds as a match for this program? Yes

Are the funds confirmed?

No

What is the approximate date you anticipate receiving confirmation of the federal funds?

Beginning in July 2020 via future NAWCA grants leveraged to help pay to restore lands acquired via OHF.

Output Tables

Acres by Resource Type (Table 1)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Acres
Restore	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	60	500	0	0	560
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0
Total	60	500	0	0	560

Total Requested Funding by Resource Type (Table 2)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat	Total Funding
Restore	-	ı	ı	ı	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$1,150,000	\$5,000,000	-	-	\$6,150,000
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-
Total	\$1,150,000	\$5,000,000	-	-	\$6,150,000

Acres within each Ecological Section (Table 3)

Туре	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Acres
Restore	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	0	0	0	560	0	560
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect in Easement	0	0	0	0	0	0
Enhance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	560	0	560

Total Requested Funding within each Ecological Section (Table 4)

Туре	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest	Total Funding
Restore	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	\$6,150,000	-	\$6,150,000
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	\$6,150,000	-	\$6,150,000

Average Cost per Acre by Resource Type (Table 5)

Type	Wetland	Prairie	Forest	Habitat
Restore	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	\$19,166	\$10,000	-	-
Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-

Average Cost per Acre by Ecological Section (Table 6)

Type	Metro/Urban	Forest/Prairie	SE Forest	Prairie	N. Forest
Restore	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Fee with State PILT Liability	-	-	-	\$10,982	-

Project #: None

Protect in Fee w/o State PILT Liability	-	-	-	-	-
Protect in Easement	-	-	-	1	-
Enhance	-	-	-	-	-

Target Lake/Stream/River Feet or Miles

Outcomes

Programs in prairie region:

• Protected, restored, and enhanced shallow lakes and wetlands ~ Land bordering shallow lakes and cropland containing drained wetlands will be acquired and restored back to functioning prairie wetlands for waterfowl with native grass and forb wildflower grassland surrounding them as habitat for pollinators, migratory birds, and resident wildlife. Lands will transferred into the state Wildlife Management Area system to provide additional prairie habitat for migratory species and public use, both of which will be monitored by Minnesota DNR. Restored wetland basins will be monitored by DNR area wildlife field staff, and managed to optimize wetland habitat conditions. Prairie uplands will be managed to minimize trees and encourage native plants.

Parcels

For restoration and enhancement programs ONLY: Managers may add, delete, and substitute projects on this parcel list based upon need, readiness, cost, opportunity, and/or urgency so long as the substitute parcel/project forwards the constitutional objectives of this program in the Project Scope table of this accomplishment plan. The final accomplishment plan report will include the final parcel list.

Parcel Information

Sign-up Criteria?

No

Explain the process used to identify, prioritize, and select the parcels on your list:

Restore / Enhance Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection
Goose Prairie WMA - Tract 6 Dahl	Clay	14144227	50	\$50,000	Yes

Protect Parcels

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing
					Protection
Thielke Lake WMA - Tract 4	Big Stone	12246203	204	\$500,000	No
Thielke Lake WMA - Tract 8	Big Stone	12246203	715	\$175,000	No
Thielke Lake WMA - Tracts 7A-12	Big Stone	12346234	627	\$1,500,000	No
Expandere WMA - Tract 12	Cottonwood	10537206	121	\$960,000	No
Little Swan Lake WMA - Tract 14	Cottonwood	10635218	17	\$125,000	No
Delft WMA - Tract 7	Cottonwood	10635220	36	\$215,000	No
Winkler WMA - Stenzel Tract 5	Jackson	10437206	53	\$75,000	No
Teal Lake WMA - Tract 3	Jackson	10436230	80	\$675,000	No
Libra WMA - Tract 2	Jackson	10438221	80	\$590,000	No
Oleander WMA - Tract 13	Kandiyohi	12236215	79	\$240,000	No
Whitefield WMA - Tract 3 Louwagie	Kandiyohi	11835215	26	\$200,000	No
Whitefield WMA - Tract 5	Kandiyohi	11835210	236	\$1,100,000	No
Greenhead WMA - Tract 2	Lyon	10940221	119	\$500,000	No
Madsen WMA - Tract 5	Meeker	12031226	272	\$1,200,000	No
Stoderl Slough WMA - Tract 1	Murray	10542225	160	\$750,000	No
Dovray WMA - Tracts 19/19a	Murray	10740213	165	\$1,200,000	No
Lake Maria WMA - Tract 3 Onken	Murray	10841208	135	\$1,000,000	No
Ruthton WMA - Tract 1a	Murray	10843207	181	\$1,200,000	No
Great Oasis WMA - Tract 17	Murray	10742210	334	\$2,000,000	No
Great Oasis WMA - Tract 27	Murray	10742210	200	\$1,400,000	No
Daubs Lake WMA - Tract 2/2a	Redwood	11137211	160	\$1,300,000	No
Indian Lake WMA - Tract 10	Sibley	11329228	67	\$470,000	No
Henry X WMA - Tracts 2 & 2A	Swift	12239220	70	\$80,000	No
Henry X WMA - Lee Tract 3	Swift	12239217	40	\$160,000	Yes
Monson WMA - Tract 25	Swift	12237236	15	\$50,000	No

Protect Parcels with Buildings

Name	County	TRDS	Acres	Est Cost	Existing Protection	Buildings	Value of Buildings
Minneota WMA - Fisher	Jackson	10136229	136	\$820,000	No	2	\$0
Tract 8							
Shaokatan WMA - Mudder	Lincoln	11146203	240	\$1,000,000	Yes	11	\$0

Project #: None

Farm

Parcel Map

